

# **MINUTES FOR THE TOWN MATTERS COMMITTEE**

# **MONDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2022 IN THE GUILDHALL**

Present: Councillors V Trow (Chair), G Allen, A Oliver, P Paine, B Piper and L Webberley

## Apologies: Cllr Cummings

Not Present: Cllr Collinson

## In Attendance: Cllr T Bennett, L Ferrier (Marketing and Communications Manager) and S Halliday (Governance and Projects Manager).

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

### **To receive apologies and to confirm that any absence has the approval of the Council.**

Cllr Trow read out a statement about how the meeting would be conducted and recorded.

The apologies were received and accepted.

*The Committee will adjourn for the following items:*

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

*The Committee reconvened.*

**2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **To approve the minutes of 26th September 2022 and update on any matters arising.**

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of proceedings. Matters arising:

### Item 3 – Air and Water Quality Concerns. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that a meeting is held for local stakeholders including representatives from river user groups, community groups and monitoring authorities. Invitees to include: Rowing Club, Canoe Club, SHDC planning, SHDC environmental health, South West Water, Westcountry Rivers, Dynamic Adventures, Dart Harbour Authority, Surfers Against Sewage, DCC Highways, DCC Public Health, Buckfastleigh TC, Staverton PC, Berry Pomeroy PC, Anthony Mangnall, and the local media.

### The meeting will comprise of those groups invited but will be recorded and shared publicly via the website and on social media.

Item 4 – Cost of Living Meeting. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that in lieu of the currently vacant TTC community coordinator role, alternative co-ordination support provision is investigated to empower and facilitate a joined-up community response. This could be funding a part-time post within one of the community organisations. Also, that the Paige Adams Trust will be asked if the Civic Hall can be made available, if needed, to provide one venue that can be used by multiple community support projects one day a week to reduce individual costs.

### **3. DAISY AND RAINBOW NURSERIES**

**To consider a report from the Daisy and Rainbow councillor representative.**

Cllr Bennett gave a summary from the recent Daisy Preschool and Rainbow Nursery Annual General Meeting: COVID has presented difficulties which have been worked through; recruitment and retention of staff has been a challenge; and an OFSTED inspection of the Rainbow Nursery which rated it ‘outstanding’.

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that it writes to the local MP, South Hams District Council and Devon County Council with its concerns about the waiting list for children securing nursery places; the impact on the child’s development and mental health; the ability of parents to work and the economic development of the town. If resolved, the letter will be drafted by Cllr Bennett for the Clerk’s signature.

### **4. TOWN DECORATION**

**To consider any town decorations for Coronation Day (6th May 2023) and summer events.**

To **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that bunting is put up in Fore and High Street at the end of April/early May for the Coronation and stays up until mid-September for summer events.

It was **AGREED** that the existing bunting must be checked and to purchase any new bunting required.

### **5. WATER QUALITY UPDATE**

**To note an update on the water quality meetings with South West Water and the Environment Agency.**

Noted. The Committee are pleased to hear about the links that have been made and upcoming meetings, and a look forward to a further update and discussion in January 2023.

### **6. COST OF LIVING PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

**To note the minutes of the Cost of Living Partnership meeting.**

Noted.

### **7. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP**

**To note the minutes of the Climate Change Working Group held on 25th October 2022 (standing item).**

Noted.

### **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

### **To note the date of the next meeting of the Town Matters Committee – Monday 30th January 2023 at 6.30pm.**

### Noted.

Sara Halliday

Governance and Projects Manager